

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 05858 311659Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05
EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HEW-04 HUD-01 AGRE-00 COME-00
/132 W

-----051118 311713Z /44

R 311536Z DEC 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8937

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: UN RESTRUCTURING

REF: USUN 5857

1. MISSION HAS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY THAT THE 32ND UNGA APPROVED THE FINAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING. REFTEL REPORTS OUR INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE OUTCOME OF THIS EXERCISE.

2. AS AMEMBASSY PARIS IS AWARE, THE FRENCH WERE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW POSITION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL WHICH MIGHT OVERSHADOW THEIR SENIOR POSITION IN THE SECRETARIAT (I.E. THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS). THE FINAL RESTRUCTURING PACKAGE CALLS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS POSITION AS WELL AS A REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNCTIONS HITHERTO CARRIED OUT BY ESA. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW THE FRENCH WILL REACT TO THE FINAL RESTRUCTURING PACKAGE; HOWEVER THE FOLLOWING MAY BE OF ASSISTANCE IN ANY ENSUING DISCUSSIONS:

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A. THROUGHOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS THERE WERE EXTREMELY CLOSE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN USUN AND THE FRENCH MISSION TO THE UN. ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES DIFFERING AMONG OURSELVES, ESPECIALLY ON TACTICS TO BE EMPLOYED, WE SHARED A GENUINE CONCERN TO ENSURE THAT ESA (NOW TO BE CALLED THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND

DEVELOPMENT) WOULD RETAIN A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE SYSTEM AND NOT BE SUBJECT TO DIRECT GUIDANCE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL. WHATEVER OUR DIFFERENCES, AT NO TIME WERE THEY MADE PUBLIC.

B. IN THE HECIC FINAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS, U.S. DELEGATION ARGUED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVE A CONSENSUS TEXT AND THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FINAL SHAPE AND NATURE OF THE NEW POSITION. WE DID NOT AT ANY TIME IN THIS PROCESS ARGUE SPECIFICS WHICH WOULD HAVE UNDERCUT THE FRENCH POSITION. THE FRENCH COMPROMISES ON THE ISSUE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WERE THUS MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EC-9.

C. USUN GREATLY APPRECIATES THE FLEXIBILITY SHOWN BY THE FRENCH DURING THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH PERMITTED FINAL AGREEMENT ON A CONSENSUS TEXT. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS FINAL COMPROMISE BASICALLY PROTECTS FRENCH INTERESTS AND WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THEM TO ENSURE THAT THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT PLAYS A VITAL ROLE.

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3. MISSION WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS TO AMEMBASSY PARIS OUR APPRECIATION FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT THESE NEGOTIATIONS.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN05858
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780004-0759
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977121/aaaaaadi.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c6dc20fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 5857
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 100242
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN RESTRUCTURING
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6dc20fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009